

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Family name, First name: **Bertsias, George**

Researcher unique identifier(s): **ORCID ID 0000-0001-5299-1406**

Nationality: **Greek**

URL for web site: <https://www.imbb.forth.gr/en/research-en/infections-immunity/item/4187-george-bertsias>

• EDUCATION

- 2014–2018 Fellowship in Rheumatology, University Hospital of Heraklion, Greece
- 2012–2014 Post-doctoral fellowship, Department of Basic Sciences, Medical School, University of Crete (UoC)
- 2010–2011 Post-doctoral fellowship, Inflammatory Diseases Section, Genetics and Genomics Branch, National Institutes of Health (NIAMS, NHGRI), MD, USA (Prof. D. Kastner)
- 2009–2010 Residency in Internal Medicine, University Hospital of Heraklion, Greece
- 2006–2009 Ph.D. in Immunology-Autoimmunity, Laboratory of Rheumatology, Medical School, UoC, Greece, “*Cum Laude*” Supervisor: Prof. Dimitrios Boumpas
- 2004–2006 Master’s degree (M.Sc.), Graduate Program “Molecular Basis of Human Disease”, Medical School, UoC, “*Cum Laude*”
- 2003–2004 Internship, General Hospital of Sitia, Greece
- 2002–2003 Short-term research scholarship, Diabetes & Endocrinology Unit, Department of Medicine, Boston University Medical Center (MA, USA) (Prof. N. Ruderman)
- 1996–2002 MD, Medical School, UoC, “*Cum Laude*”

• CURRENT POSITION(S)

- 2021–Present Associate Professor in Rheumatology-Clinical Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School, UoC, Greece
- 2019–Present Group Leader, Laboratory of Rheumatology, Autoimmunity and Inflammation, Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (IMBB), Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH), Greece
- 2018–Present Staff Rheumatologist and Head of the Lupus Clinic, Rheumatology Clinic, University Hospital of Heraklion, Greece

• PREVIOUS POSITIONS

- 2020–2021 Assistant Professor (*tenured*) in Rheumatology-Clinical Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical school, UoC, Greece
- 2016–2020 Assistant Professor (*tenure-track*) in Rheumatology-Clinical Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical school, UoC, Greece
- 2014–2016 Lecturer, in Rheumatology-Clinical Immunology, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School, UoC, Greece

• FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2013 Hellenic State Scholarships Foundation: Post-doctoral “Excellence” Scholarship
- 2010 Nominated (“*A. Onassis*” Foundation) as one of the 3 most promising young researchers in Greece – representation at the 60th Meeting of Nobel Laureates in Lindau, 2010
- 2006 “*A. Onassis*” Foundation scholarship (G-ZB 051/2005-2006) for postgraduate studies
- 2004 Graduate Program “Molecular basis of Human Disease” scholarship
- 2004 “*M. Manasaki*” Foundation scholarship for graduate studies

- 2002 Award (GlaxoSmithKline) for graduating 1st among 100 medical students (UoC)
1996–2000 Hellenic State Scholarships Foundation: 1st in the class in the Medical School (UoC)

• **RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

- 2012- Principal Investigator, Laboratory of Rheumatology, Autoimmunity and Inflammation, UoC, Medical School
2012- Principal Investigator, Department of Rheumatology, Clinical Immunology and Allergy, University Hospital of Iraklio
2012- Scientific Coordinator of the “Leto” Cretan SLE Registry, Department of Rheumatology, Clinical Immunology and Allergy (University Hospital of Iraklio and UoCSM)
2013- Member of the International Task Force of “Treat-to-Target” in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)
2005- Member and Facilitator of the European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) Study Group on SLE. Projects: EULAR recommendations for the management of SLE (2005), Neuropsychiatric SLE (2008), Lupus nephritis (2012), Family planning and pregnancy in SLE (2014), Update of the recommendations for the management of SLE (2019), Update of the recommendations for the management of Lupus Nephritis (2019)

• **SUPERVISION OF GRADUATE STUDENTS AND POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS**

- 2014–Present Number of research students:
2 post-docs: Dr. Chrysoula Stathopoulou (biologist), Dr. Antonis Fanouriakis (MD/PhD)
7 PhD students: Dr. Irini Gergiannaki, Dr. Christina Adamichou (*completed*); Spyros Georgakis, Despoina Kosmara, Marina Anastasiou, Dimitra Nikoleri, Sofia Papanicolaou
7 Master’s students: Dr. Amalia Zampoulaki, Thanasis Seretis, Eleni Kabrani, Thanos Blanos, Spyros Georgakis, Despoina Kosmara, Dimitra Nikoleri
Medical School, School of Biology, UoC, Greece; and IMBB-FORTH

• **TEACHING ACTIVITIES**

At the University of Crete, Medical School

- 2014–Present **Course coordinator** and Teaching the postgraduate course “Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Clinical Methodology”
2014–Present Teaching the postgraduate class “Costimulatory receptors and immune regulation”
2014–Present Teaching the postgraduate classes “Innate and Adaptive Immunity”, “Immune regulation, autoimmunity and immunotherapy”, Schools of Medicine/Biology (UoC) and IMBB

• **ORGANISATION OF SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

- 2016–2020 **Co-organizer** of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Lupus School (Athens, Greece)
2017 Scientific Committee, 26th Greek Rheumatology Meeting (Thessaloniki, Greece)
2016 Scientific Committee, 10th European Lupus Meeting (Venice, Italy)
2014 **Co-organizer** of the 9th European Lupus Meeting (Athens, Greece)

• **INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 2017–Present **Deputy Director**, Joint Graduate Program “Molecular Biology-Biotechnology”, Schools of Medicine/Biology (UoC) and IMBB-FORTH
2019–Present Member of the Curriculum Evaluation Committee, Medical School, UoC
2017–2019 Co-coordinator, Career & Alumni Committee, Medical School, UoC
2018 Member of the Faculty Committee, Medical School, UoC
2014–2015 Member of the Safety Committee, Medical School, UoC

- 2016–2018 Member of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, Medical School, UoC
2014–2018 Member of the Steering Committee, Graduate Program “Molecular Basis of Human Disease”, Medical School

• **REVIEWING ACTIVITIES**

- 2014–Present Grants Reviewer panel member: *UK Medical Research Council (MRC); Health Research Charities Ireland; Wellcome Trust Investigator Award in Science; Lupus Foundation of America; Icelandic Research Fund; Italian Foundation of Research on Arthritis; The Romanian National Authority for Scientific Research; US-Israel Binational Science Foundation; South African MRC; Greek Secretariat of Research and Technology; Cyprus Research Promotion Foundation; Italian Ministry for Education, University and Research*
- 2011–Present Abstracts Reviewer panel member: Annual European Congress of Rheumatology (EULAR); European Lupus Meeting (2015, 2018, 2020)
- 2012–Present Ad hoc reviewer for >20 Journals including: *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases* (IF 16.1), *Arthritis & Rheumatology* (IF 9.6); *BMC Medical Genomics* (IF 2.7); *Nature Reviews in Rheumatology* (IF 16.6); *New England Journal of Medicine*; *Scientific Reports* (IF: 4.0)
- 2016–Present Editorial Board in the following journals: *Clinical Immunology, Rheumatic & Musculoskeletal Diseases Open, Frontiers in Medicine, Lupus Science & Medicine, Cells*
- 2019 Scientific Advisory Board, International Phase III clinical trial on secukinumab (anti-IL17A) in lupus nephritis (Novartis, CAIN457Q12301)
- 2019–Present Scientific Advisory Board, International multicentre study STEPS (“STERoid withdrawal in Patients with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus”)
- 2018–Present Member of the International Steering Committee DORIS (Definition Of Remission in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus) (*coordinator*: Prof. R. Vollehoven, UMC, Netherlands)

• **MEMBERSHIPS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES**

- 2020–Present General Assembly of the European Lupus Society SLEuro (<https://sleuro.org>)
2012–2018 EULAR (European League Against Rheumatism) and EMEUNET
2012–Present Greek Rheumatology Society
2002–Present Medical Society of Heraklion, Greece